Connecting state capitals in North East by railway lines

†898. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the capitals of North Eastern States which are not yet connected with rail lines;

(b) the steps being taken by Government to connect such State capitals with rail lines; and

(c) by when the selection and estimation of the rail lines for the said purpose would be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) The name of the capitals on North East States which are not yet connected with rail lines are as follows:-

I) Manipur-Imphal

2) Meghalaya - Shillong

3) Arunachal Pradesh - Itanagar

4) Nagaland - Kohima

5) Mizoram - Aizwal

6) Sikkim - Gangtok

(b) and (c) Details of steps taken by Government to connect such State capitals with rail lines alongwith status are as under:-

Sl. No.	State	State Capital	Details of rail line connecting State capital
1	2	3	4
1.	Manipur	Imphal	Jiribam-Imphal (Tupul) (125 kms) is a sanctioned project and in progress. Expected to be completed by March 2012 upto Imphal Road. Proposal for extension of line upto Imphal has been processed.
2.	Meghalaya	Shillong	Azara-Byrnihat (30 km) is sanctioned project where Final Location Survey has been taken up. Targeted for completion during 2014-15. Survey for Byrnihat-Shillong has been taken up.
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar	Harmuti-Itanagar (33 km) is a sanctioned project where Final Location Survey completed from Harmuti to Naharlagun. Land acquisition has been taken up.
4.	Nagaland	Kohima	Dimapur-Kohima (Zubza) (88 km) - Final Location Survey taken up. Extension of line upto Kohima is also being examined.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3	4
5.	Mizoram	Aizwal	Bhairabi-Sairang (51.38 km) - Final Location Survey taken up. Extension of line to Aizwal will be examined during Final Location Survey.
6.	Sikkim	Gangtok	Rangpo-Gangtok (60 km) - Survey for Sivok-Rangpo (53 km) completed and proposal processed for approval of the Government. For Rangpo - Gangtok (60 km), survey taken up.

The estimates for various projects would get firmed up after completion of Final Location Surveys.

Abolition of Posts in West Central Railway

†899. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that approximately 4116 posts of West Central Railway are being abolished by Railways;

(b) if so, the number of posts being abolished due to this retrenchment in West Central Railway division alongwith the name of the departments in the said division where such posts are being abolished;

(c) whether this retrenchment is being done under the policy of reducing the number of employees in Government bodies due to policy of globalisation; and

(d) whether abolishing the posts of railway employees in such a large number would not affect the work and security of Railways whereas Railways are already facing the staff crunch?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Laying of new lines

900. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the progress made in laying new rail lines between Bhadrachalam and Kovvur and Nadakudi and Srikalahasti;

(b) the reasons for delay in completing the construction of these new lines; and

(c) by when the work on these new lines is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) The surveys for Bhadrachalam-Kovvur and Nadikudi-Srikalahasti have been completed. The projects are not yet sanctioned.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

National projects in North Eastern region

901. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.